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Wetherby Rural District Council



REPORT
ON THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT
DURING YEAR 1952

by

RONALD G. SMITHSON
Medical Officer of Health

and

JOHN MARRIOTT
Engineer, Surveyor and
Chief Sanitary Inspector

Wetherby Rural District Council

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WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

L. R. BURRELL, Esq., J.P., 4, Raby Park, Wetherby

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

J. NORFOLK, Esq., J.P., Northfield, Tockwith

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Chairman: F. K. ABBEY, Esq.

Vice-Chairman: G. H. RAWLINGS, Esq.

THE FULL COUNCIL

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Chairman: R. F. THATCHER, Esq.

Vice-Chairman: A. HAIGH-LUMBY, Esq.

THE FULL COUNCIL

WATER COMMITTEE:

Chairman: R. PROCTER, Esq.

Vice-Chairman: J. W. WATSON, Esq.

THE FULL COUNCIL

PERSONNEL DETAILS

DIVISIONAL HEALTH ORGANISATION

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer:

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer:

M. T. Burton, L.M.S.S.A. Commenced 10th November, 1952.

Part-time Medical Officers at Clinics:

J. Marjorie Brown, M.A. (Hons.), M.B., Ch.B. Left 7th November, 1952.

C. E. Mathieson, M.B., Ch.B. Left 30th April, 1952.

W. Murphy, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Barbara E. Wilson, M.B., Ch.B.

Consultants and Specialists working in Division:

Ear, Nose and Throat:

R. Thomas, B.A., B.M., B.Ch. (Oxon.), D.L.O.

Eye:

L. Wittels, M.D., D.O. (Oxon.)- Commenced 1st January, 1952.

Obstetrical:

C. Rutherford Morison, M.A., M.B., C.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic:

C. H. M. Middleton, M.B., Ch.B.

Paediatric:

L. J. Prosser, M.B., Ch.B.

Tuberculosis:

F. Ridehalgh, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.), M.R.C.P.

V. Ryan, M.D., D.P.H.

S. P. Wilson, M.D., D.P.H.

Dental Officers:

Miss R. Sclere, L.D.S.

G. O. Wood, L.D.S.

L. B. Owen, L.D.C.

Speech Therapist:

Miss M. P. Dunkley.

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

NURSING STAFF:

Health Visitors/School Nurses:

Miss G. E. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
Miss I. V. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Queen's).
Miss J. W. Brigham, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
Miss Manuel, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert., D.N.
Mrs. E. Marsden, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
Miss M. Pepper, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert, D.N. Commenced 1st July, 1952.
Miss E. F. Rutledge, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Left 15th July, 1952.
Miss C. Swift, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Home Nurse:

Miss L. Evamy, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queen's).

Home Nurses/Midwives:

Miss E. E. Basher, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queen's).
Mrs. E. Bithell, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Miss V. E. M. Finbow, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queen's).
Miss C. A. Fox, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Queen's). Commenced February, 1952.
Miss A. Garrett, S.R.N., C.M.B. Left 31st May, 1952.
Miss A. Girdlestone, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Miss H. M. Glennie, S.R.N., C.M.B.
Miss A. E. Hickes, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Miss E. C. Hodgson, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Queen's).
Mrs. G. Jeffries, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Mrs. A. M. Linins, S.R.N., S.C.M. Commenced 3rd November, 1952.
Mrs. E. Linley, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Miss M. Murphy, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Miss W. E. Payne, S.E.A.N., C.M.B.
Mrs. M. Precious, S.E.A.N., C.M.B. Left 26th March, 1952.
Miss M. E. Watson, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Dental Attendants:

Miss Allathorne.
Miss Dawson.

Physiotherapist:

Miss A. M. Sugden. Left 31st October, 1952.

Orthopaedic Nurse:

Mrs. Andrews. Commenced 1st November, 1952.

Assistant Health Visitor/School Nurse:

Mrs. E. Clark, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Visitor:

Mrs. E. M. Askam, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert. (Queen's).

V.D. Social Worker:

Miss E. M. Senior.

Mental Health:

Miss E. Buck (Social Work).
Miss Moxon (Home Teacher). Left 11th August, 1952.
Miss Leng (Home Teacher). Commenced 11th August, 1952.

CLERICAL STAFF:

Senior Clerk: F. H. Atack.

Mrs. M. P. Gamble. Commenced 1st September, 1952.
Miss S. Graham.
Miss H. M. Johnson. Left October, 1952.
Miss S. Marfitt. Commenced 18th November, 1952.
Mrs. M. Matthews. Left 30th June, 1952.
Mrs. D. M. A. Stephenson.

AMBULANCE SERVICE:

Depot Officer:

T. G. Woodhouse.

PERSONNEL DETAILS—Continued

ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT

***Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer:**

JOHN MARRIOTT, Chartered Municipal Engineer, M.I.Mun.E.,
A.M.T.P.I., M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

***Deputy Surveyor and Deputy Chief Sanitary Officer:**

WILLIAM LEONARD BARNESLEY, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Surveyor and Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

PETER TELFORD, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

General Foreman (Public Health):

Brian Wood.

General Foreman (Water):

Norman Rhodes.

Clerk of Works (Housing and Engineering):

Frederick Clarkson.

Draughtsman Clerk:

Thomas H. Whitehouse.

General Clerk:

Brian C. Betts. Commenced 22nd September, 1952.

Shorthand Typist:

Miss V. Irving. Left 6th September, 1952.

Miss M. Portway. Commenced 15th September, 1952.

Junior Assistant:

Miss S. Kerr.

Consultant Engineer:

Wilf. K. Rodwell, Chartered Civil Engineer, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Mun.E.

Consultant Architects:

W. A. Jones, F.R.I.B.A.

G. A. BURNETT, A.R.I.B.A.

C. W. C. Needham, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I.

R. B. Armistead, F.R.I.B.A.

Anthony Steel and Owen, A./A.R.I.B.A.

*Exchequer contributions to the salaries of these Officers under the Local
Government Act, 1933.

Wetherby House,
WETHERBY.
August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wetherby Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This, the Annual Report for the year 1952, is the sixth occasion on which I have had the honour of presenting the Report.

Statistically, the outstanding figures are the reduction in the death rate accompanied by a birth rate substantially the same as in 1951, a reduction in the still-birth rate and in the deaths from cancer and an increase in the infant mortality rate. The number of still-births and deaths of children under one year of age is small and the rates fluctuate correspondingly greatly. It is sufficient to say that both rates compare favourably with the country as a whole and with other rural districts. It is pleasing to be able to report no maternal death occurred during the year.

In the field of environmental health for which the District Council is directly responsible, we learned with pleasure of the successful outcome of the new borehole at Stockeld, the water obtained being of satisfactory purity and hardness. Towards the end of the year it became known that the Council was likely to be authorised to proceed with modified schemes of sewerage disposal in the Western area and Thorp Arch districts. The figure for completed Council houses compares favourably with the previous year and the figure given for houses in course of construction at the end of the year promises well for the number of completions in 1953. The refuse collection service continues to be favourably comparable with most rural areas and it is hoped in the not too distant future that the District Council will be able to provide that weekly collection which is the ideal from the public health point of view.

Perhaps the matter of greatest moment to your Medical Officer of Health in his dual capacity was the efforts made by the Council during the year to reverse the decision of the Regional Hospital Board to close Hazlewood Castle Maternity Home. Perusal of previous Annual Reports will show the substantial contribution made by Hazlewood to the Maternity Home confinements among mothers from the district. The unsatisfactory administrative set-up under the National Health Service Act regarding Hospital provision was particularly

well demonstrated by the fact that such an important decision to the area could be taken without the District Council having an opportunity of expressing an opinion at the appropriate time. In fact, it was only by chance that the matter was first brought to the notice of the District Council early in 1952 and it was not surprising that your Council thenceforward exerted every effort to convert the responsible bodies for Hospital administration to the view that the closure of Hazlewood Castle was not in the best interests of the district. Towards the end of the year it appeared that the Hospital Management Committee, the Regional Board and the West Riding County Council had been converted to the District Council's view, but at the time of writing this Report it is regrettable to have to say that the Minister took upon himself the final decision in this matter and his judgment was not in accordance with the views of the District Council. It will only be possible to see the full effects of the closure of Hazlewood Castle as time goes on, but even at the date this Report is being written it does appear that the alternative accommodation suggested will provide less adequately for the needs of the Wetherby District than were anticipated.

Once again, Mr. Chairman, I should like to extend sincere thanks to you, to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, and to all members of the Council for continued support and encouragement during the year. Colleagues on the staff of the District Council have been consistently helpful throughout 1952 and the staff of the Divisional Office have worked hard and with enthusiasm during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD G. SMITHSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1. REPORT AS MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64,424
Population 1931 Census	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,317
Population—Registrar-General's Estimate mid-1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,540
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,121
Rateable Value 31/3/53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£141,185
Product of 1d. Rate 31/3/53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£560
District Council General Rate 1952/53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5/8
County Council General Rate 1952/53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12/6

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births:		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	127	129	256
Illegitimate	...	8	4	12
		-----	-----	-----
Totals	...	135	133	268
		-----	-----	-----
Birth Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	13.0
Stillbirths 4. Rate per thousand total birth	...	...	...	14.7
Illegitimate live births represent 4.5 per cent. of total live births.				
Total Deaths from all Causes 203. Crude Death Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	9.9
Standardised Death Rate per thousand population	...	...	...	9.8
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth was	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year:				
All Infants per 1,000 live births (6)	...	...	...	22.4
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (6)	...	...	...	23.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	30
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)	...	...	...	3
Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (all ages)	...	...	...	0

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT

Comparable Vital Statistics for the year 1952

Based on the Registrar-General's Figures

	Wetherby Rural District	Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Provi- sional figures)
BIRTH RATE:—				
(Per 1,000 estimated population)	13.0	15.8	15.4	15.3
DEATH RATES:—				
(All per 1,000 estimated popula- tion) All Causes	9.9	9.8	11.5	11.3
Infective and Para. Dis. excl. Tub. but inc. Syph. and other V.D.	0.05	0.06	0.07	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.21
Tuberculosis Other	—	0.03	0.03	0.03
Cancer	1.46	1.66	1.92	1.99
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	1.66	1.37	1.74	*
Heart and Circulatory	3.99	3.53	4.35	*
Respiratory Diseases	0.49	1.01	1.15	*
Maternal Mortality (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and stillbirths) ...	—	0.57	0.80	0.72
Infant Mortality	22.4	29.8	30.0	27.6

* Figures not available.

COMPARABLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT From 1938 to Date

Year	Estimated Population at Mid-Year	Natural Variation		Live Births		Deaths			
		Increase	Decrease	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population (iv)	Total (v)	Rate per 1,000 Population (vi)	Under One Year (vii)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) (viii)
(i)	(ii)	(iii)		(iv)		(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)
1938	16,840	32	—	240	14.25	206	12.33	8	33.34
1939	16,920	7	—	236	13.93	229	13.15	9	38.00
1940	18,130	—	25	214	11.80	239	13.18	15	65.00
1941	18,910	4	—	243	13.91	239	12.64	15	55.35
1942	18,890	56	—	307	16.25	251	13.28	14	45.60
1943	19,240	69	—	295	15.33	226	11.75	7	23.75
1944	20,140	143	—	344	17.00	201	9.98	20	58.00
1945	19,460	138	—	328	16.83	190	9.76	10	30.49
1946	18,820	159	—	380	20.20	221	11.70	11	29.00
1947	18,890	133	—	340	18.00	207	11.00	8	24.00
1948	19,470	110	—	298	15.31	188	9.66	8	27.00
1949	19,440	112	—	315	16.20	203	10.40	10	31.40
1950	20,270	30	—	282	13.91	252	12.43	8	28.37
1951	20,530	20	—	278	13.50	258	12.60	3	10.80
1952	20,540	65	—	268	13.00	203	9.90	6	22.40

CAUSES OF CIVILIAN DEATHS

Registrar-General's Abridged List of Causes of Deaths in the
District during 1952

CAUSE								NUMBER		
								Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	1	3							
2. Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—							
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1							
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—							
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—							
6. Meningococcal Infections '	—	—	—							
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—							
8. Measles	—	—	—							
9. Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—							
10. Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	3	1	4							
11. Malignant Neoplasm (Lung, Bronchus)	2	3	5							
12. Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	—	3	3							
13. Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	—	4	4							
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	9	15							
15. Leukaemia (Aleukaemia)	—	—	—							
16. Diabetes	1	—	1							
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	15	19	34							
18. Coronary Disease (Angina)	20	7	27							
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	3	4							
20. Other Heart Disease	12	26	38							
21. Other Circulatory Disease	5	8	13							
22. Influenza	—	—	—							
23. Pneumonia	2	4	6							
24. Bronchitis	2	2	4							
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—							
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3							
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—							
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	—	4							
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	2							
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—							
31. Congenital Malformations	1	2	3							
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	4	17	21							
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4							
34. All other Accidents	2	1	3							
35. Suicide	—	2	2							
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—							
Total ...								90	113	203

From the Registrar-General's list of causes of death in the District during 1952, it will be seen that the most frequent causes of death, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand population were:—

Heart and circulatory disease ...	82	equivalent to a death rate of 3.99
Intra cranial vascular lesions ...	34	equivalent to a death rate of 1.65
Cancer	30	equivalent to a death rate of 1.46
Pneumonia	6	equivalent to a death rate of 0.29
Bronchitis	4	equivalent to a death rate of 0.19
Motor vehicle accidents	4	equivalent to a death rate of 0.19

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Chief Sanitary Inspector deals with the sanitary circumstances of the area in extensio later in the Report and brief comment only will be made at this stage.

In addition to a distinct improvement in the number of houses completed during the year, it will be noted that a substantial number of houses were in course of erection. In the main these houses are of a lesser floor area and include a number of two-bedroomed houses. Their advent will do much to provide a house of modern standards for families needing such provision.

The Council's intention was to make advance preparations for continued building. Towards the end of the year it was necessary to give very serious consideration to the financial implications of continuing such a policy. Without deciding to reduce the building programme, the Council hesitated to proceed with further schemes until the full impact of the cost had been assessed at the end of the financial year 1952/53. The request from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the Council to reduce house building in the Wetherby district has made it unnecessary for the Council to take such a decision itself.

Negotiations for the acquisition of the Wetherby District Water Company's undertaking proceeded during the year, and at the time of writing this Report a final decision as to the cost of the transaction has been arrived at. Much work has been done towards improving the supply of water in the district and the successful outcome of sinking the borehole at Stockeld has been very gratifying. The supply of water from this source would appear to be plentiful, free from contamination and of reasonable hardness.

Progress made towards commencing work on the Western Area and Thorp Arch Sewerage Schemes is welcomed, except by those Parishes where necessary work has been cut out of the Scheme.

The Council has given serious consideration to the improvement of the refuse collection service but from the public health point of view it is regretted the ideal of a weekly collection has not yet been reached.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year:—

	Total	Cases sent to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	21	9	—
Whooping Cough	164	2	—
Poliomyelitis	4	2	—
Measles	178	1	—
Acute Pneumonia	7	1	6
Dysentery	10	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—

Comments

Whooping Cough and Measles

Cases of these two diseases notified during 1952 represented the continuance of an epidemic of each disease previously reported in 1951. One hopes the continuance of the scheme of vaccination against whooping cough reported in Part II of this Report will eventually reduce the incidence of whooping cough in the area.

Poliomyelitis

Four cases of poliomyelitis were notified and two cases were sent to Hospital. There was no evidence of any connecting link between the cases occurring in the district.

Dysentery

The ten cases notified were all of the Sonne variety and represented those cases notified during an outbreak of a gastro-intestinal infection spread over several weeks in one part of the district. It would appear that the ten cases notified were merely a fraction of the cases which suffered infection.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following figures show the state of the register at 31-12-52.

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
37	34	18	12	101

This is an increase of 12 cases over the figures at 31-12-51.

Analysis of new notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis during year.

CIVILIAN TUBERCULOSIS

					NEW CASES			DEATHS		
					Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Age										
0	...	...	...	...	—		—	...	—	—
1	...	...	...	...	—		—	...	—	—
5	...	...	...	...	2		3	...	—	—
15	...	...	...	...	3		2	...	1	—
25	...	...	...	...	2		—	...	1	—
35	...	...	...	...	2		—	...	—	—
45	...	...	...	...	3		—	...	1	—
55	...	...	...	...	1		—	...	—	—
65 over	...	...	...	...	1		—	...	—	—

Service Cases : Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952

Year of Birth	Year of Immunisation										Totals in Year of Birth	Age at 31.12.52 Years	Total in Age Groups	No. Immu- nised to date at age in Col. 12
	Before 1944	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952				
Col. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1952										13	13	0—1	678	134
1951									13	143	156	1—2		980
1950								7	117	19	143	2—3		368
1949							13	128	47	9	197	3—4		177
1948						8	117	31	7	6	169	4—5		159
1947					5	137	26	6	2	2	178	5—6	1826	275
1946				8	61	92	12	5	5	2	185	6—7		249
1945			39	54	23	25	5	9	8	1	164	7—8		183
1944		8	23	5	17	19	17	26	2	1	118	8—9		169
1943	20	51	3	1	6	23	49	4	2	1	160	9—10		158
1942	149	7	2	4	12	12	37	2	—	—	225	10—11	141	
1941	115	2	—	3	12	16	37	4	1	1	191	11—12	138	
1940	96	5	2	—	13	18	33	3	—	2	172	12—13	115	
1939	107	—	1	1	13	14	37	7	2	2	184	13—14	91	
1938	202	—	—	—	13	9	21	1	3	—	249	14—15	25	
1937	139	—	1	—	5	9	15	3	1	—	173	15—16	899	41
1936	109	—	—	—	11	5	21	2	—	—	148	16—17		
1935	95	—	1	—	9	3	8	1	—	—	117	17—18		
1934	93	—	—	—	4	1	5	—	—	—	103	18—19		
1933	85	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	39	19—20		
1932	89	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	96	20—21	3403	
1931	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	81	21—22		
1930	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	22—23		
1929	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	23—24		
1928	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	24—25		
Totals	1472	73	72	76	214	392	453	239	210	202	3403		3403	3403

Boosting doses were given in 42 cases during 1952.

Report as
Divisional Medical Officer
for 1952

CLINIC ARRANGEMENTS IN DIVISION No. 9

(Tadcaster and Wetherby Rural Districts)

Abbreviations: A.N.—Ante-Natal. I.W.—Infant Welfare. E.N.T.—Ear, Nose and Throat. T.B.—Tuberculosis.

TOWNSHIP	LOCATION	PURPOSE	DAY AND TIME
MEDICAL OFFICERS' CLINICS. (Static)			
Bardsey	Trustees' Hall	I.W.	Alternate Mondays, 1-30 p.m.
Barwick-in-Elmet	Methodist Schoolroom	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Boston Spa	West End Nursery School	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Church Fenton	Methodist Sunday School	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Church Fenton R.A.F.	R.A.F. Station	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Thursdays, 1-30 p.m.
Micklefield	Methodist Chapel	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Sherburn-in-Elmet	Methodist Sunday School	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m.
Swillington	Wakefield Road (Hut, nr. Church)	{ A.N./I.W.	Every Thursday, 1-30 p.m.
		{ Minor Ailment	Every Wednesday, 9-30 a.m.
Tadcaster	Multiple Clinic, Leeds Road	{ A.N.	Alternately Wednesday, 10-0 a.m. and Friday, 1-30 p.m.
		{ I.W.	Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30 p.m.
		{ Minor Ailment	Every Tuesday and Thursday, 9-30 a.m.
		{ Speech Therapy	Every Thursday, 9-30 a.m.
		{ Orthopaedic Treatment	Every Monday, 2-0 p.m.
		{ Ultra Violet Light	Every Monday and Thursday, 9-30 a.m. (Winter months only).
Tockwith	Methodist Sunday School	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Mondays, 1-30 p.m.
Wetherby	Crossley Street	{ A.N.	Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30 p.m.
		{ I.W.	Every Thursday, 1-30 p.m.
		{ Minor Ailment	Every Thursday, 9-30 a.m.
		{ Speech Therapy	Every Tuesday, 2-0 p.m.
MEDICAL OFFICERS' CLINICS. (Mobile)			
Appleton Roebuck	Village Green	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Thursdays, 10-0 a.m.
Copmanthorpe	Lower Green	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Thursdays, 2-0 p.m.
East Keswick	Village Institute	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Fridays, 10-0 a.m.
Huby	Village Institute	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Fridays, 2-0 p.m.
Ledston	Village Institute	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 10-0 a.m.
Thornor	Village Institute	A.N./I.W.	Alternate Wednesdays, 2-0 p.m.
CONSULTATIVE CLINICS			
Tadcaster	Multiple Clinic, Leeds Road	{ T.B.	2nd and 4th Tuesday each month, 10-0 a.m.
		{ Ophthalmic	Every alternate Friday, 9-30 a.m.
		{ E.N.T.	Every 4th Tuesday, 9-30 a.m.
		{ Paediatric	2nd Wednesday each month, 2-0 p.m.
		{ Orthopaedic	1st Thursday each month, 1-30 p.m.
Wetherby	Crossley Street	Ophthalmic	Every alternate Friday, 1-30 p.m.

PART II. REPORT AS DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

In previous years District Councillors have expressed appreciation of the information inserted in the Annual Report about County Council activities carried on from the Divisional Health Office and, in the light of this response this section is once again inserted from that point of view.

During the greater part of the year we did not have the services of a wholetime Assistant County Medical Officer of Health. This fact made it extremely difficult to keep abreast of all the work coming to the Office and it was only by virtue of the good offices of private practitioners helping part-time in the Clinics that it was possible to keep abreast with the work at all. In November Dr. Burton was appointed to the staff but, owing to difficulties of settling happily domestically, Dr. Burton applied for a transfer elsewhere shortly after the turn of the year.

The deficiency in the clerical staff, referred to in the last Annual Report, continued throughout the year and, as far as I am aware, no consideration has been given to the appointment of a further member of the staff. It should be emphasised that the constant attempt of a small office staff to cope with work which is acknowledged to justify a further appointment leads to a feeling of disgruntlement almost approaching apathy. It is particularly disappointing that the implementation of clerical establishment in the "C" Divisions of the County compares at little more than 50% whereas the establishment in other Divisions is in the region of 70%. By the same token, the fact that regrading of members of the staff in some of the Divisions in the County has taken place, but not in others, accentuate this feeling of discontentment.

Despite the handicaps just referred to it will be noted from the detailed figures given in the remainder of this part of the Report that the amount of work carried out by the staff in the Division is about the same as was reported in 1951. That it is possible to report such results is a credit to the staff of Health Visitors, District Nurse Midwives, clerical staff and home helps.

It is gratifying to be able to feel that once again relationships with peripheral representatives of other Departments of the County Council remain good and it is with particular pleasure one acknowledges the assistance so readily obtainable from the offices of the National Assistance Board and the Ministry of National Insurance who serve the area.

SCHOOL CHILDREN

Routine periodic school medical examinations were carried out on 392 children. 73 re-inspections of defects found at previous examinations were recorded. In the total of 392 children seen routine 193 items of defect were discovered. 0.5% of the children seen were estimated below average nutrition.

The School Nurses conducted 15,610 cleanliness examinations during the year and discovered 94 children showing signs of infestation with lice.

The number of cases dealt with at Minor Ailments Clinics in Swillington, Tadcaster and Wetherby totalled 102 in the year.

The following figures relate to dentistry carried out in the Division :—

	Tadcaster	Wetherby	Total
	Rural	Rural	
Number of children inspected ...	1690	4198	5888
Number of children found to require treatment	1334	2362	3696
Number of children offered treatment	1129	2098	3227
Number of children treated ...	724	1326	2050
Number of attendance	917	2476	3393
Number of extractions:			
Temporary teeth	785	1737	2522
Permanent teeth	125	75	200
Number of general anaesthetics	31	10	41
Number of fillings:			
Temporary teeth	63	255	318
Permanent teeth	929	990	1919
Number of other treatments:			
Temporary teeth	16	114	130
Permanent teeth	53	111	164

Consultative clinics operated throughout the year, and the following statistics apply:—

Eye Clinic

299 children were examined, spectacles being prescribed in 131 cases. By arrangements made with the Hospital Management Committees of York and Harrogate we were told that 109 children had obtained glasses prescribed during the year before the year ended.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic

95 children attended the Monthly Clinic, and 26 children were referred for operative treatment, 24 of the operations had been carried out by the end of the year.

Paediatric Clinic

32 children made 78 attendances. Dr. Prosser, from Harrogate has attended this clinic regularly throughout the year and we have gained much assistance from him in regard to children living in the area.

Speech Therapy Clinic

50 cases received treatment during the year and 15 cases were still awaiting attention from the Speech Therapist at the year end.

Sunray Clinic

74 cases received treatment.

Mothers and Young Children

Miss Rutledge, who has served this district faithfully in the capacity of Health Visitor since before the Divisional Health Scheme started, was promoted to Superintendent Health Visitor in Harrogate in July, 1952, and took with her our wholehearted good wishes for success in her new appointment. Miss Rutledge was replaced by Miss Pepper, and to her we extend a friendly welcome and hope she will get much satisfaction from working in Division 9.

The total number of home visits made by the Health Visitors for all purposes was 17,821.

We understand the Mobile Clinic now being built to County Council specifications is nearing completion and it is hoped Division 9 will have a share of the use of the vehicle when it is delivered.

The Ante-Natal Clinics were attended by 217 expectant mothers on 1,011 occasions, 99 mothers attended 100 times for Post-Natal purposes.

At the Infant Welfare Clinics, a total of 1,030 children below the age of 5 years made 8,568 attendances.

At Hazlewood Castle Maternity Home 582 babies were born, 296 to mothers from outside the Division. 233 children were born at home in the Division. 164 normal residents here

had babies born outside the area.

The total number of premature babies born was 50, of whom 9 were stillbirths. 14 of these premature babies were born at home, and the premature baby unit was used on two occasions. 37 of the 41 premature babies born alive survived over one month.

In parenthesis, it is of interest to note in connection with the 12 years' investigation of premature babies born in 1949, that of 42 premature babies born to mothers normally resident here, five have left the Administrative County (it is known that at least 3 are still surviving), and of the remaining 37, 29 have attained the age of 3 years.

It is of interest to note that 3 mothers were sent to the Brighthouse Ante-Natal Hostel and that 85 domiciliary confinements made use of gas and air analgesia.

Midwifery

Statutory Notices received from Midwives

1.	Death of (a) Mother	0
	(b) Child	8
2.	Stillbirths	16
3.	Substitution of Artificial Feeding	25
4.	Liability to be a source of infection	5
5.	Medical Aids issued because of complications arising in/during:—	
	(a) Pregnancy	7
	(b) Labour	15
	(c) Lying-in	5
	(d) The Child	4

Home Nursing

Miss Glennie, the District Nurse-Midwife in the Bishopthorpe area, was absent sick until May and we are indebted to Miss Garratt for continuing to fill the breach.

Mrs. Precious, the District Nurse-Midwife in Barwick-in-Elmet, retired in March on reaching the age limit. She will be sadly missed, not only for the assiduity with which she carried out her work but also because of the wealth of local knowledge she had accrued during the time she had served in the area. We wish her well in her retirement.

Mrs. Bithell, who serves the area around Church Fenton, had the misfortune to break her leg in August and she was

unable to return to duty by the end of the year.

In February Miss Fox joined the staff as the relief Home Nurse-Midwife in the Wetherby district, and Miss Jeffries joined the staff in a similar capacity in the Tadcaster district in November. We regard both these ladies as distinct acquisitions to the strength and we hope they will enjoy many years of fruitful work in the area.

The Home Nurses in the Division attended 1,428 cases, necessitating 30,062 visits in the year. 3,303 of these visits were for injections only.

Prevention of Illness—Care and After-care

Records were received of vaccination having been performed in 272 cases in the Division during the year. Similarly we were told of 47 re-vaccinations having been carried out.

The scheme for inoculation against whooping cough commenced during the year and is available to any child below the age of four years who has not been in contact with an infectious disease within the previous month or does not suffer from certain allergic conditions. The inoculations consist of three injections at monthly intervals and the County Council's scheme enables children to be dealt with either by private practitioners or by Medical Officers in the Clinics. At the end of the year we had records of 127 children having completed the course of three injections against whooping cough throughout the Division. Our impression is that more children would have been presented if we had had the material available to carry out the inoculations. That position has now righted itself and it is hoped to be able to report substantially more children having been inoculated against whooping cough during 1953.

The whole-time Tuberculosis Visitor paid 1,434 visits to the homes of her patients and BCG vaccination, aimed at protecting children in close contact with known cases of tuberculosis was performed on 13 children living in the Division.

The Divisional Office issued 170 orders for extra nourishment for tuberculosis patients during the year and 27 patients were still receiving this extra allowance on the 31st December, 1952.

In September the Mass Radiography Unit visited the Division and sessions were held in Tadcaster, Thorp Arch and Wetherby. 2,892 persons presented themselves for examination. 75 abnormalities were discovered, of which 23 had a tuberculous

background.

Mental Health Social Work continued to be conducted by Miss Buck during the year, and at the 31st December, 1952, she had 72 cases under legal or voluntary supervision.

Miss Moxon, who has been the Home Teacher for the mentally handicapped in the area, was transferred to another part of the Riding in August, and we thank her for the service she has given here. We are fortunate in having as her successor Miss Leng, and we hope she will find the work of Division 9 congenial.

Home Help Service

The number of cases supplied with a Home Help, and the reason for the service is as follows:—

1. Illness	...	...	...	...	33
2. Lying-in	...	...	...	...	40
3. Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	5
4. Aged	...	...	...	...	48
5. Children of School Age	...	...	...	...	5
					<hr/>
					131
					<hr/>

These cases received 22,462 hours' service.

Welfare of the Aged

It is pleasing to be able to report increased interest in the Welfare of the Aged in many parts of the Rural Districts of Tadcaster and Wetherby. Surprising results have been obtained in some of the smaller Parishes which can act as an object lesson to many of their bigger neighbours. The Medical Officer of Health counts it an honour to be a member of the Executive Committee in each Rural District.

Care of Children—Neglected or Ill-treated in their own homes

The Divisional Committee charged with co-ordinating agencies dealing with the care of children in their own homes meets every two months under the Chairmanship of the Divisional Medical Officer. In all sincerity tribute is paid to the regularity with which members of the Committee attend the Meetings. By means of joint discussion on individual cases aimed at planning concerted action to improve conditions our efforts appear to be bearing fruit.

WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Officer

For the Year 1952.

Council Offices,

WETHERBY,

July, 1953.

To the Rural District Council of Wetherby:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting my 7th Annual Report for consideration, I am pleased to say that 1952 was a year of steady progress and undiminished effort in the work of the Council in general, and of my Department in particular. In almost every aspect progress can be reported; there has been a welcomed improvement in the provision of new houses and in the development of water and sewerage services.

The most serious problem of the moment is that relating to the repair of rent controlled small cottage property and work in this connection becomes increasingly difficult.

I am glad of this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Council for their keen interest and unfailing support, to the members of my staff for their loyalty and willing service, and to the Officers of the Council for the co-operation which has been shown to me. The relationship with the Officers of the various Public Authorities with which the work of the Department is associated is excellent, and the co-operation from these colleagues is acknowledged.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MARRIOTT,

Chartered Municipal Engineer,

M.Inst.Mun.E., A.M.P.T.I.,

M.Inst.P.C., M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR &

CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE WETHERBY RURAL DISTRICT, 1952

TOWNSHIP	Estimated extent (acres)	Population 1931 (Census)	Population 1952 (Est.)*	Dwelling No. of	Rateable Value £	Produce of Penny Rate £ s. d.	SERVICES TO DWELLINGS						
							Water Supply			Sewerage		Closets	
							Public Supply	Piped	Private Other	Public Sewer	Private Sept. Tk. Other	W.C.	E.C.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
Angram	521	51	70	18	201	16 0	18	18	7	11			
Bardsey-cum-Rigton	2752	796	1393	447	8606	35 1 10	441	414	442	5			
Bilton-with-Bickerton	2299	357	341	103	1136	4 12 4	96	79	70	33			
Boston Spa	880	1433	2194	761	12628	50 9 8	759	749	733	28			
Bramham-cum-Oglethorpe	4112	1042	1200	350	4383	17 10 8	332	295	289	61			
Clifford	742	1110	1204	321	4247	17 1 0	315	310	305	16			
Collingham	2842	884	1261	418	9014	37 1 9	403	396	412	6			
Deighton North	1475	106	126	33	567	2 4 3	30	28	26	7			
Harewood	8154	1161	1146	352	9186	36 17 6	316	230	254	98			
Hutton Wandesley	1233	88	108	32	679	2 13 11	31	30	28	4			
Kearby-with-Netherby	1422	146	147	47	723	2 17 1	44	—	32	15			
Keswick East	1290	503	655	205	3456	13 14 3	191	187	185	20			
Kirk Deighton	2276	349	459	115	2234	8 13 0	94	84	109	6			
Kirkby Overblow	2224	255	338	103	1549	6 1 10	96	71	81	22			
Long Marston	2850	254	304	86	1144	4 13 2	86	73	67	19			
Ribston Little	858	158	168	54	474	1 18 6	51	51	52	2			
Rigton	3058	318	365	126	1452	5 15 11	107	41	54	72			
Scarcroft	1073	358	465	144	3309	12 15 4	141	101	127	17			
Sicklinghall	1495	235	306	81	1223	4 19 9	72	62	56	25			
Spofforth	5468	793	807	257	4454	17 8 9	227	200	209	48			
Thornor	2461	1113	1174	384	6180	24 12 1	378	344	354	30			
Thorp Arch	1529	423	506	99	10353	41 11 7	98	81	76	23			
Tockwith	3188	496	562	185	4791	18 2 10	174	141	130	56			
Walton	1590	192	196	59	14086	56 9 3	57	50	36	23			
Weeton	1373	617	650	234	5035	20 9 0	227	218	224	11			
Wetherby	2460	2805	4128	1018	27955	109 7 11	1013	991	1008	8			
Wighill	2247	180	180	63	1251	4 15 8	62	50	58	5			
Wilstop	1080	49	51	13	141	10 9 9	11	—	3	10			
Wothersome	772	40	36	13	127	10 4	13	—	7	6			
	64424	16317	+20540	6121	140584	559 15 11	5883	5294	5432	689			

NOTE.—The whole district is served by the Public
*Allocation of population to parishes is estimated.

1951 Census figure—20,340 (parish figures not yet published).

I. GENERAL

a. General Statistics

Full details of the Census 1951 are not yet available and therefore, the accompanying table still contains estimates of population for the individual parishes. The preliminary report on the Census indicates the following details of interest relating to your district:—

	Males		Females		Total
Census, 1931	7,635	...	8,698	...	16,333
Census, 1951	9,955	...	10,385	...	20,340

There has, therefore, been an increase of population since 1931 of 24.4 per cent.

The following table is a summary of the development of the environmental health services in your district:—

	No. of Houses	Per Cent. of Total	Increase 1952
Water from public main	5883	96.0	129
Piped water supply (including private sources)	6045	97.5	101
Connected to public sewers	5294	87.0	84
Satisfactory drainage to public sewers or private sewage disposal schemes	5907	96.5	84
Water Closets	5432	89.0	187
Earth Closets	689	11.0	114 dec.
Baths and hot water supply	4350	71.5	250

It is particularly noteworthy that there are now only 76 houses in the rural district which have not a piped supply of water from either public or private sources and 230 houses still obtain their water from private sources.

There has been a substantial reduction during the year in the number of earth closets and I estimate that there are approximately 500 earth closets which are still capable of conversion as result of action under the Public Health Act, 1936.

b. Legislation

During the year, the Council decided to adopt a large number of sections of the West Riding (General Powers) Act, 1951, and it is anticipated that these powers will become effective during the ensuing year.

c. Staff and Organisation

Miss V. Irving has left the service of the Council and Miss M. Portway was appointed to fill the vacancy and commenced duty on the 15th September, 1952.

The Council gave special consideration to the work of the Department and owing to the increase caused by additional responsibilities in connection with water supply, agreed to the promotion of Mr. T. H. Whitehouse to the position of Chief Clerk/Draughtsman and to the appointment of a male clerk. Mr. C. B.

Betts was appointed to the position and commenced duty on the 22nd September, 1952. By these changes, there has been a very considerable improvement in the work and general efficiency of the Department, as your technical officers have been able to devote more time to the outside duties, including the supervision of the services of the Council.

d. Manual Workers

34 workmen are now employed in the Department and at the year end there was one vacancy. The records of sickness for the year ending 31st March, 1953, indicates that 405 man-days were lost due to illness. 11 men had no absence due to illness but 4 men had over 30 days illness and the longest total period of absence was 47 days. Absences due to sickness are carefully investigated and I am certain that there has been no abuse during the year of the Council's sickness scheme.

Following my report last year, regarding the provision of an improved Depot accommodation, a scheme was prepared for the erection of 2 Romney Huts at Hallfield to provide a store and garages. Tenders have been invited and submitted for Ministry approval. At the end of the year, approval was received for the erection of these buildings at a cost of £3,208.

II. TOWN PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL

a. General

Work under this heading has again been heavy, the principle development being some relaxation in licencing control towards the year end and the preliminary work in connection with the revision of the Building Byelaws.

b. Control of Building and Development

The following is a summary of Building Byelaw and Planning Development Applications received and dealt with:—

	Planning Applications			Building
	Construction	Change of use	Advts.	Byelaws
Brought forward from 1951 ...	10	—	1	12
Received 1952	168	17	21	304
	178	17	22	316
Approved	73	10	13	251
Conditionally approved	78	5	3	26
Temporary Buildings	5	—	—	15
Refused	8	1	2	10
Withdrawn	7	—	—	5
	171	16	18	307
Outstanding 31-12-52	7	1	4	9
	178	17	22	316

It should be noted that there has been an increase in applications submitted to the Council for consideration. The work under this heading becomes an increasingly onerous and time-consuming duty of your staff and of the Public Health Committee. 8 enforcement notices under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, have been served and only one case was outstanding at the year end. It is noteworthy that 5 caravans were the subject of these notices together with 3 outstanding cases from the previous year. In the whole of the 8 cases the caravans have now been removed.

c. Industrial Area, Wetherby

Your Committee negotiated for the purchase of the land for the above named industrial area but the owner would not agree to sell, and subsequently, the Council reluctantly made the Wetherby (Compulsory Purchase) Order No. 4. A Public Inquiry was held on the 10th December, 1952, into your application for confirmation of this Order.

d. Vehicular Parking, Wetherby

The car park adjoining Hallfield Lane, Wetherby, was completed at a total cost of £3,734, being £261 less than the accepted tender due to savings during construction. Since completion, the park has been increasingly used and to an extent greater than the Council could reasonably have anticipated. Two other car parks in Wetherby adjacent to the Town Hall and in Victoria Street, have been under review and the revision of the Byelaws is now under consideration.

e. Tree Preservation Order

The Wetherby (Rural) Tree Preservation Order (No. 1) 1952 was the subject of an official Public Inquiry on the 8th October, 1952. This order covers the township of Wetherby. The Wetherby (Rural) Tree Preservation Order (No. 2) 1952 has been made and submitted to the County Council for approval prior to formal submission to the Minister.

f. Building Byelaws

The Public Health Act, 1936, provides for the revision of Building Byelaws at 10 year intervals but in consequence of the war, the first revision is long overdue. On the 18th November, 1952, however, the Minister of Housing and Local Government issued the New Model Building Byelaws and the consideration of these was in progress at the year end. The New Model Byelaws provide a completely new set-up with the object of allowing more freedom in the use of material and methods, and to effect economies. The methods adopted to achieve these objects is to state in the constructional parts of the byelaws the " functional " requirements of the building (e.g. that it should be weather proof and capable of standing specified loads) without requiring any

particular material to be used, but to follow up such byelaw with a clause stating what British Standard or other specification will be “ deemed to satisfy ” the byelaw requirements. Much thought will be required to the interpretation of the byelaws based on the new Model Byelaws and in particular to their application in the checking of deposited plans.

g. Building Licensing

There has been a considerable relaxation in the licensing arrangements during the year, by the raising of the free limit (which is now £500 for housing purposes) and therefore the general licensing applications have been considerably reduced. The relaxation on the issue of new house licences had resulted in the Council informing the whole of the applicants on the waiting list that they are now in a position to proceed with the erection of a new house. For the ensuing year, any applicant desiring to erect a house not exceeding 1,000 sq. ft. in total floor area is to be granted a licence without question and for houses in excess of this size, discretion rests with the Council who will require evidence of need. The licensing quota or ceiling for general licensable work has been lifted to £7,000 for the 3 months ending 31st March, 1953. A total of 66 licences amounting to £37,447 were issued during 1952 for repairs and alterations to dwellings. The licensing position in relation to new houses is set out in the following table:—

New House Licensing									
Year Ending 31st December, 1951									
Under Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	12		
Licences allocated	...	...	...	...	...	...	33		
							—	45	
1952									
Licences allocated by Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	160		
Licences allocated by the Ministry of Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	1		
Authorised under subsidy	...	...	...	...	...	...	5		
							—	166	
								—	211
Completed during 1952	...	...	...	...	...	...	10		
Licences withdrawn or lapsed	...	...	...	...	...	...	31		
Under construction at year end	...	...	...	...	...	...	53		
							—	—	94
Licences allocated and still to take up at 31st December, 1952	...	...	...	...	...	...			117

III. HOUSING

a. Housing Progress

There has been a welcomed acceleration in the rate of progress during the year as follows:—

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952

Parish	Completed		Under Construction		Tender or Licence		Total	
	Private Trad. Convers.	Council Trad.	Private Trad. Convers.	Council Trad.	Private	Council	Private	Council
Bardsey	3	—	13	4	8	—	24	4
Boston Spa	—	20	—	64	3	—	3	84
Bilton	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Bramham	3	4	—	10	—	—	3	14
Clifford	—	4	1	4	—	—	3	8
Collingham	3	3	9	—	6	8	19	11
Deighton North	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Harewood	—	—	4	—	3	—	8	—
Hutton Wandesley	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
Keswick East	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Kirk Deighton	—	—	4	10	7	—	12	10
Long Marston	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	2
North Rigton	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	—
Ribston Little	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Sicklinghall	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2
Spofforth	—	—	1	4	1	—	2	4
Scarcroft	—	—	5	4	2	4	7	8
Thornor	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	2
Thorp Arch	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tockwith	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Wetherby	—	15	4	111	3	—	7	126
Wighill	—	4	2	—	—	—	2	4
Weeton	—	2	2	—	—	14	3	16
Walton	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
	10	56	53	213	38	30	118	299
	21	56	59	213	68		417	

Licences Allocated (Parish Unknown) — 10.

As I have stated previously, I am of the opinion that the Council should analyse their future needs in order to avoid “ over building ” in any parish. There are a number of villages, particularly in the agricultural area, where the housing shortage has been overcome and with the completion of the present programme of the Council, a similar position is likely to occur in other villages.

Work in connection with the selection of additional sites in 8 parishes, has taken up a considerable amount of time and negotiations regarding road construction and the making up of existing housing estate roads has been heavy.

The West Riding County Council have adopted the recommendations of the Ministry regarding road construction. This involves a soil analysis, prior to the preparation of the specification as, subject to the result of the analysis will the specification, acceptable to the County Council be agreed. The first results of this new technique are to hand and are most disquieting, in that with proposed road extensions to existing estates, the new specifications call for considerably higher standards of construction and greater costs than was required on the roads recently constructed and immediately adjoining.

The following table gives details of the housing progress since the end of the war and the overall position is not unsatisfactory. The capital assets of the Council in respect of housing at the financial year end were £1,357,413 18s. 3d.

Completed since end of war:—

Private	New Houses—Traditional	...	...	106
	do. Prefabricated	...	...	2
	Conversions	...	...	110
				<hr/> 218
Council	New Houses—Traditional	...	...	239
	do. Prefabricated	...	...	228
	Conversions	...	...	59
				<hr/> 526
	TOTAL	...		<hr/> 744
Demolished or closed	...	...	...	69
	Nett increase			<hr/> 675

In hand at year end:—

Private—All types	...	...	...	59
Council—All types	...	...	...	213
				<hr/> 272

b. Existing Houses

Repair of Existing Houses

The repair of rent controlled property is a matter of considerable concern if the whole of the repairs to these houses were required to be carried out it would be necessary to report a considerable number to the Council as not being capable, at a reasonable expense, of being rendered fit for human habitation and the Council's only possible action under the Housing Act, 1936, would be to take Demolition Order procedure. It is most important that the Council should realise that the legal standard of fitness of a dwelling and the action to be taken, is governed by the words "incapable of being rendered fit in all respects at a reasonable cost." Therefore, the relationship between the income from rents and the cost of repairs largely governs the assessment of unfitness of a dwelling from a legal aspect.

Only in the more advanced stages of dilapidation, disrepair and unfitness (the type of case that would have been dealt with prior to the war) is action under the Housing Act being initiated by your Officers. Legislation in respect of demolition and repair of individual houses which was originally placed on the Statute Book in 1930 does not appear to be operable except to a limited extent under present circumstances. It has been necessary, therefore, for your Officers to exercise considerable discretion in the use of the Housing Acts and this has resulted in an extended use of the Public Health Acts; in addition, a great deal has been accomplished by informal discussions with owners of property in respect of essential repairs.

Whilst the present problem in respect of existing houses has been largely created by war and post war conditions, and the limited rent income, there are further factors which should be mentioned. For instance, the improved standards of housing now accepted as reasonable and necessary have inflated the waiting list for new houses and houses which in the public mind would have been regarded as reasonable and satisfactory 15 or 20 years ago, are today regarded as condemnable. To deal with old houses at the present time calls for a good deal of patience and tact and results can not be spectacular. I have referred previously to the steady deterioration of property but whilst this is apparent to all, structural deterioration is difficult to measure and although observations show that there is inadequate external maintenance such as painting and pointing, the deterioration of brickwork and woodwork is relatively slow and some years may elapse before dampness penetrates walls and reaches the interior or windows, doors and roof become affected. Professional bodies, including the Sanitary Inspectors Association, have repeatedly urged the Minister of Housing and Local Government to give early consideration to rent reform which is considered to be an essential prerequisite to adequate action for dealing with unfit houses. It

is hoped that the Minister will deal with this matter at a very early date.

I regret to report that "Improvement Sections" of the Housing Act, 1949, whereby financial assistance can be given to owners of suitable houses to improve such houses, has not been used and this appears to be due to the emphasis on "improved" to the exclusion of reference to "repair" and therefore only the better class property appears to be eligible for consideration whereas the type of property which was dealt with successfully in your district under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, before the war is not likely to receive large benefit from this Act. The Act is now over three years old and of the applications received, only one from an owner/occupier has been approved by the Minister and the works completed.

Owing to pressure of work during the last 3 years the tabulation into presentable form of the results of the Housing Rural Survey has had to be postponed but towards the end of the year this was commenced and it was found that for accurate results, it was essential to make a rapid re-check owing to the developments during the period since the original inspections. Tabulated results when complete will be of very considerable administrative value for future housing work and an endeavour will be made to complete this work during 1953.

During the year it has been possible to secure the re-conditioning of 41 houses resulting in the upgrading of 17 of these from the demolition to the satisfactory class and in addition at 232 houses, repairs have been carried out under the provision of the Public Health Act. 8 houses have been demolished and official representations have been made in respect of 5 houses. Demolition Orders have been issued in 2 cases, voluntary closure agreed on vacation in a further 2 cases and re-conditioning agreed in one further case. 7 families have been re-housed from unfit houses and 6 families still await re-housing from condemned houses. At the moment, 14 vacant houses await demolition.

c. Overcrowding

It has again been necessary to investigate a number of cases of alleged overcrowding and in no case was statutory overcrowding discovered. There is now no known case of statutory overcrowding within your district.

IV. DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

a. Drainage and Sanitary Conveniences

The connection of houses to the Tockwith and Bilton sewerage scheme has been completed and with the completion of the Angram sewerage scheme the houses in this village were connected to the sewers. 66 new houses have been connected to public sewers during the year. 14 new septic tanks have been installed

and there are now only 214 houses with drainage of a type not suitable for water carriage sanitation. 47 houses were completely re-drained. 114 earth closets have been converted into water closets and the total grants paid by the Council, amount to £469 18s. 4d. in respect of 32 conversions, being an average of £14 13s. 4d. per convenience.

b. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal (existing)

The new sewage disposal works at Crimble Beck, Long Marston and Tockwith continue to give satisfaction and although difficulty has been experienced with the pumping main at Bickerton, the problem appears to have been overcome and this also applies to the difficulties reported last year at Long Marston where a storm tank has now been provided at the Sewage works.

The condition of the older works (which I have reiterated in numerous reports) still causes concern but there is hope, within the next 2 years, that these works will be replaced.

At Wetherby Joint Works, urgent repairs to the river bank could not be longer deferred and it was necessary for the reconstruction of the flood bank to be carried out, by a specialist contractor. In addition, the condition of the original two percolating filters has become so bad, due to disintegration of the filtering media, that your Council authorised an expenditure of £1,200 for the removal and replacement of the media to a depth of 2ft. from the surface. This work will be carried out during the ensuing year but will probably not be possible until the summer due to the present load on the works. Accumulation of sewage sludge at all sewage works, is a matter of constant concern, although at the new sewage works the problem of handling and disposal are nothing like so acute as at the older works. The mechanical loading shovel to which reference was made in my last report was delivered towards the close of the year and it is now hoped that this machine will considerably reduce the problem by facilitating the handling of material. All the sewers in your district are regularly inspected and treated for rodent infestation. There have been 27 cases of blocked sewers and 2 defective sewers have been repaired.

c. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—Post War Schemes

The present position is as follows:—

- (i) **Angram.** Completed.
- (ii) **Thorp Arch and District Scheme.** The Minister has agreed to this scheme being proceeded with, subject to the deletion from the scheme of the proposals in respect of Wighill and Walton and has approved the tenders and agreed to award a starting date early in 1953. This scheme will serve nearly 75% of the population of the district at 2 sewage disposal works and will eliminate 4 existing sewage disposal works.

- (iii) **Long Marston.** The installation of storm tanks at these works has been completed.
- (iv) **Western Area Scheme.** The Minister has approved the tenders for this scheme at a cost of £58,405 and has authorised a start to be made. This scheme will provide for sewerage and sewage disposal facilities to the parishes of Harewood, Kirkby Overblow, Kearby and North Rigton and for the re-construction of the Weeton Sewage Disposal Works.

On the completion of the programme as detailed above, the whole of the rural district which can economically be provided, will be served by sewers and modern sewage disposal facilities.

Sewage Treatment and Disposal will then be carried out at seven sewage disposal works.

d. Financial Statement year ending 31st March, 1953

The total cost of the service for the year ending 31st March, 1953, was £9,936 the income was £8,522, leaving a deficiency of £1,414 to be borne by the General Rate Fund.

Loan charges amounted to £5,922.

The capital assets of the Council in respect of sewerage amount to £180,313.

V. WATER SUPPLY

a. Private Supplies

172 samples of water have been collected for bacteriological analysis and of these 75 were found to be unsatisfactory and 14 of doubtful purity. In the case of properties from which unsatisfactory samples have been collected, formal action has been taken for the connection (wherever possible) of these premises to the water main. 56 houses have been provided with a piped supply of water in lieu of wells and springs and at the end of the year there were only 76 houses in the district without a piped supply of water. It has again been possible to carry out the Council's policy of analysing annually each supply in the district.

b. Public Supplies. General

The accompanying table gives full details of water supplies within your district. Each public supply is subject to routine analysis at fortnightly intervals and 167 samples have been submitted for such analysis. Of this number, 3 samples were unsatisfactory and 8 were doubtful. The majority of these doubtful samples were collected from the public supply to the parish of Harewood and reveal extensive but intermittent contamination. In this case, your Council have been in negotiation with Leeds Corporation who are the Statutory undertakers for the parish of Harewood, regarding the provision of a satisfactory supply, but in view of the high cost of this scheme (£12,400) and

the fact that Leeds Corporation will require a guarantee in accordance with the terms of the Water Act, 1945, your Council decided to defer further consideration of the scheme, until the grant position had been settled. The necessity of the scheme is beyond any doubt and in the interest of public health, it is hoped that an early settlement of outstanding difficulties will be achieved and that work will proceed without further delay.

11 samples of water have been sent for chemical and mineralogical analysis and from these results the following table gives details of the hardness of the public supplies within your district:—

Total Hardness of Public Supplies					
Supply			Parts per million		Parts per 70,000 (Clarks Scale)
R.O.F.	...	...	388	(420)	27½ (30)
Bardsey	...	...	260	(252)	18½ (18)
Eastern Area	...	...	340	(510)	24 (36)
High Level	...	...	100	(40)	7 (3)
Stockeld	...	...	165	(180)	11½ (12)

(The figures in parenthesis are 1951/52 analysis)

c. Public Supplies, Wetherby R.D.C.

(i) General

After considerable negotiation, final agreement has now been reached with the Wetherby District Water Company regarding the compensation payable for the compulsory acquisition of their undertaking in 1950 by your Council, the sum agreed being £70,000. Now that this matter is settled, it is possible to report in a little more detail on the activities of your Water Committee and Water Department not only for the current year, but also for the period from 1st April, 1950 (the date of transfer of the undertaking).

(ii) Water Production and Consumption

The Council now supply water throughout the whole of the rural district, with the exception of the parishes of Kirkby Overblow and Weeton and part of the parish of Harewood and a supply of water is given to 17,388 persons. The attached table gives details of the total quantity of water distributed for each of the last three years.

(iii) Development of Water Undertaking

The main work carried out since the Council acquired the Wetherby District Water Company's Undertaking has been as follows:—

1. Integration into one undertaking of the works and mains previously owned and operated separately by your Council and by the Wetherby District Water Company. Each part of your area is now capable of being supplied from alternate sources, whereas in 1950 each part of the area was solely dependent on one supply.

WATER CONSUMPTION

QUANTITY SUPPLIED	YEAR 1950/51			YEAR 1951/52			YEAR 1952/53		
	GALLONS			GALLONS			GALLONS		
	Annual Total	Average Diurnal Total		Annual Total	Average Diurnal Total		Annual Total	Average Diurnal Total	
Domestic	200,237,000	549,000		177,267,202	485,000		172,861,650	460,000	
Metered	33,623,000	92,000		38,731,000	105,000		44,253,000	122,000	
Total	233,860,000	641,740		215,998,202	590,000		217,014,650	590,000	
QUANTITY SUP- PLIED PER DAY	Gallons per Person	Gallons per House		Gallons per Person	Gallons per House		Gallons per Person	Gallons per House	
Domestic	33.5	114.2		28.4	98.8		26.8	90.0	
Metered	5.5	18.8		6.3	21.2		7.2	26.0	
TOTAL	39.0	133.0		34.7	120.0		34.0	116.0	

WATER SUPPLIES

PARISH			PUBLIC SUPPLIES						TOTAL		PRIVATE SUPPLIES	
Name	Area	1952 Pop.	Hses.	Harrogate Corp. Hses. Pop. Meters	Leeds Corp. Hses. Pop. Meters	Wetherby R.D.C. Hses. Pop. Meters	Miscellaneous Hses. Pop. Meters	Hses.	Pop.	Meters	Hses. Piped	Hses. not Piped
Angram	521	70	18			18 70		18	70	3	—	—
Bardsey-cum-Rigton	2752	1393	447			441 1380		441	1380	39	2	4
Bilton with Bickerton	2299	341	103			96 320		96	320	22	4	3
Boston Spa	880	2194	761			608 1740			2190	41	—	2
Bramham	4112	1200	350			332 1146	1	759	2190	31	9	9
Clifford	742	1204	321			315 1190		315	1190	30	2	4
Collingham	2842	1261	418			403 1221		403	1221	35	15	—
Deighton North	1475	126	33			30 116		30	116	11	2	1
Harewood	8154	1146	352		92 297 3	46 144		316	1021	20	17	19
Hutton Wandesley	1233	108	32			30 102		31	105	9	1	—
Kearby with Netherby	1422	147	47			44 140		44	140	22	2	—
Keswick East	1290	655	205			191 610		191	610	14	11	1
Kirk Deighton	2276	459	115			94 389		94	389	14	21	3
Kirkby Overblow	2224	338	103	94 310 9		1 4		96	314	10	7	—
Long Marston	2850	304	86			86 301		86	304	39	—	—
Ribston Little	858	168	54			51 160		51	160	8	1	2
Rigton	3058	365	126	3 9 1	9 29 1	95 285		107	323	31	13	6
Scarcroft	1073	465	144			141 455		141	455	30	1	2
Sicklinghall	1495	306	81			72 280		72	280	20	9	—
Spofforth	5468	807	257	14 56 3		213 665		227	721	31	28	2
Thornor	2461	1174	384			378 1156		378	1156	32	—	6
Thorp Arch	1529	506	99			75 426		* 23	75	11	—	1
Tockwith	3188	562	185			174 530		174	530	37	6	5
Walton	1590	196	59		227 629 3	55 184		* 2	6	13	—	2
Weeton	1373	650	234			—		227	629	3	6	1
Wetherby	2460	4128	1018			1001 4073		*§12	40	1	4	1
Wighill	2247	180	63			62 174		1	3	1	—	1
Wil-trop	1080	51	13			11 45		62	177	24	—	1
Wothersome	772	36	13			13 36		11	45	9	1	1
								13	36	3	—	—
	64424	20540	6121	111 375 12	328 953 7	5076 17342	369 1160 11	5883	19832	702	162	76
					Nidderdale R.D.C.	3 18 3		3	18	3		
					**Tadcaster R.D.C.	7 28 3		**7	28	3		
								5890	19878	708		

* Royal Ordnance Factory Supply in detail by the Ministry of Supply.
§ 2 Naval Training Stations supply in detail by the Ministry of Supply.

† Lascelles Estate Supply in detail.
** Bulk Supply for the parish of Healaugh.

2. Increased Reserves of Water. In 1950, the Water Company had no reserves of water and similarly the Council had no reserves of water in respect of the Sicklinghall, Spofforth and Kearby scheme; the only part of the district with an adequate supply being your Council's Eastern Area. The present reserves (including the continuation and use, if and when necessary, of the purchase of water from other Authorities at the present level) total approximately 400,000 gallons per day or 66% of the present average daily consumption. These reserves do not take into account the potential output of the Bramham borehole. These reserves have been obtained by the cleaning of boreholes, the re-conditioning of machinery and pumps, the provision of a new borehole at Stockeld, and by elimination of waste.

3. The Overhaul of all mechanical and electrical equipment (which is to be retained) in an endeavour to increase mechanical and electrical efficiency, and to improve pumping rates.

4. The abolition of the Scarcroft borehole and pumping station in view of the unsatisfactory quality of water from this source.

5. The "districting" of supplies obtained from different sources to their own area of supply, in order to avoid inconvenience to consumers by the turbidity caused by the mixing of such waters.

6. Electrification of Bardsey Pumping Station and the abolition of the steam pumping plant. By so doing, there has been a substantial saving in the cost and much greater efficiency has been obtained. The electrification of this station and the provision of automatic apparatus and controls at other Pumping Stations now ensures that all the pumping stations are now on full automatic control and require only very limited attendance.

7. Institution of a comprehensive system of waste detection (including the installation of waste detection meters). The saving of water so far achieved reduced water consumption per head of population from 47 gallons per head per day in April, 1950, to 34 gallons per head per day in 1952. The quantity of water now distributed (notwithstanding the large increase in the number of houses and properties supplied) is less than that which was supplied in 1950.

8. Improvement of the Distribution System. The provision of a number of interlinkage mains at various points in the district in order to enable supplies to be used from alternative sources and to eliminate dead-end mains. In addition, by arrangement with the West Riding County Council Fire Service, a comprehensive scheme for the installation of fire hydrants and additional control valves is in process of execution.

9. Improvement in the Quality of Water. By a system of reservoir cleansing and regular flushing of mains, together with strict control ensuring that water from individual sources is kept separate, it has been possible to a certain extent, to eliminate complaints in respect of unsatisfactory water due to dirt and discolouration.

(iv) Stockeld Borehole

During the year under review, very considerable progress has again been made in the development of the water services and towards the year end, the Stockeld borehole was almost complete. This borehole has continuously overflowed at the surface for 15 months, during which time it is estimated that nearly 30,000,000 gallons have run to waste. The water is of excellent quality and reasonably soft and if the borehole will yield consistently the quantity of water anticipated, it will make possible very substantial improvements in water supplies throughout the district and will enable the Council to reduce considerably the bulk purchase of water. I must, however, state that the full benefit of the borehole will not be immediately realised once it is put into use, as there are certain works of interconnection and control which must be carried out before the maximum advantage can be achieved from this scheme, and a period of prolonged pumping will be necessary to ascertain the safe pumping rate from this source. This rate will largely determine the ultimate benefit to be derived from the scheme.

(v) Bardsey Pumping Station

The electrification of this station is now complete and since December has been in full operation (the steam pumping plant having been abandoned). The "Potters" steam pump has been removed from No. 2 Borehole and a surplus submersible pump from Sicklinghall Pumping Station installed in its stead.

The "Mirrlees" deep well pump which has worked continuously for 17 years has been removed for a works overhaul. Unfortunately, the pump, on replacement in the borehole has not operated satisfactorily and will again have to be removed and returned to the works. This pump is the only one that is capable of pumping to the High Level reservoir and the proposed deployment of water from this reservoir to the high levels of Bramham cannot be carried out until the pump is again in satisfactory operation.

(vi) Sicklinghall Pumping Station

Sicklinghall boreholes have continued to cause considerable anxiety and in addition there have been a number of mechanical and electrical breakdowns at this pumping station (including a fire which destroyed part of the starting equipment).

(vii) Booster Pumps

Difficulties of maintaining a full reservoir in the High Level District (Thorner and Scarcroft) and at North Rigton have been overcome by the installation of a booster pump on each of the feeder mains. These will ensure under all conditions, adequate delivery to the reservoirs.

(viii) Water Mains

Water main extensions which have been completed during the year, include the extension of the Eastern Area supply to Angram; the High Level Supply to Wothersome, Hope Hall and Bramham Park; the replacement of inadequate water pipes at Wetherby and Boston Spa; the interlinkage of water mains between Spofforth and Wetherby, between Wetherby and Kirk Deighton (Foxhill Main) and at Northfield Place, Wetherby, and extensive water main extensions to Council housing estates at Wetherby, Boston Spa and Bramham.

The Council are responsible for a total of 115 miles 1,260 yards of water main of various sizes and diameters. Of this total, 9 miles 188 yards have been laid during 1952/53. The Council are also responsible for approximately 12 miles of pipe 2in. or less in diameter much of which is in an unsatisfactory condition. In addition, by reason of the operation of the 3rd schedule of the Water Act of 1945 to this district, it is estimated that your Council are responsible for the repair and maintenance of approximately 4,000 communication pipes (i.e., pipes laid between the water main and the boundary of the highway in which the pipe is laid).

(ix) Hydrant and Valve Installation

The West Riding County Council Fire Service have authorised in total 290 additional fire hydrants which are to be installed on various mains throughout the district. Associated with this work the opportunity has been taken of providing 58 additional sluice valves, the replacement of 11 defective sluice valves, the provision of 16 waste detection meter points and 4 washouts. So far, 97 hydrants, 37 sluice valves, 5 replacement sluice valves, 11 meters and 4 washouts have been completed. The work of excavation and reinstatement for the above named work has been let in contract and the installation of fittings is being done by the Council's workmen. The total cost of the hydrant installations is being borne by the West Riding County Council.

(x) Defective Water Fittings

Defects dealt with during the year include 27 water mains, 75 communication pipes, 69 service pipes and 281 other fittings. The average cost of repair of communication pipes was £8-10-0. 888 taps at 536 premises were re-washed and this represents the re-washing of taps at nearly 10% of the premises served.

(xi) New Connections

Connections total 217 and these include 141 new houses, 47 existing houses, 5 farms and farm houses and 18 cattle troughs. In addition, 265 additional water closets, baths and hot water systems were installed.

(xii) Complaints

55 complaints were received during the year, 21 in respect of dirty water, 10 in relation to temporary failure of supply, 13 in respect of inadequate pressures and for other matters over which the Council at the moment have no control, and 11 miscellaneous complaints.

(xiii) Future Development

The Council have also given consideration to overcoming further difficulties of supply in the district and have agreed in principle to the following schemes:—

1. Thorner—Scarcroft

Duplication of water main designed to overcome difficulties of supply in the High Level district of Thorner at a cost of £2,764.

2. East Keswick

Replacement of inadequate water pipe and interlinkage of water mains designed to reduce the load on the booster pump and to overcome supply difficulties at a cost of £539.

3. Boston Spa, Clifford and Bramham

Water main duplication and interlinkage designed to overcome difficulties of supply at a cost of £2,424.

4. Wetherby

Water main duplication and interlinkage designed to overcome difficulties of supply at Wetherby and at Kirk Deighton at a cost of £902.

5. Housing Sites

Water main extensions at five housing sites at a cost of £600.

6. Disposal of redundant plant and buildings at Bardsey Pumping Station.

7. The structural repair and re-decoration of all pumping stations and reservoirs.

VI. PUBLIC CLEANSING, TRANSPORT & SALVAGE

a. Development of Service

Your Public Cleansing sub-Committee considered a special report from me in June, 1952, relating to:—

- (a) Increased work of refuse collection due to the additional houses to be served.
- (b) Replacement of refuse vehicles.
- (c) Reduction in number of refuse disposal points.
- (d) Labour shortages due to holidays and illness.

Arising from this, your Council finally decided:—

- (a) Not to increase the four collection areas but to replace two 10 cub. yd. side loading refuse vehicles with 16/18 cub. yd. vehicles.
- (b) To adopt a policy of reducing the number of tips and to purchase a mechanical shovel to ensure the proper control of such tips.
- (c) To give to me reasonable discretion to engage casual labour as required (although at periods when this is required such labour is rarely obtainable).

b. Transport

The transport of the Department is the same as reported in my last report. Following the decisions taken above, your Council decided to purchase two S&D (Fore and Aft Tipping) refuse vehicles after a weeks demonstration working in the district. It is hoped that these vehicles will be delivered early in the ensuing year. The large capacity vehicle has the advantage that it reduces very considerably the time lost by frequent journeys to the refuse disposal point and in addition this specially designed vehicle provides for compaction of the refuse in the vehicle and thereby ensures an adequate pay-load. The vehicles also ensure flexible working, in that accommodation is provided for up to four loaders thus enabling the use of additional loaders in suitable parishes in order to speed up collection.

The maintenance of all the vehicles has caused me considerable concern as it has not been possible to take the vehicles off the road for re-painting and overhaul as frequently as is desirable due primarily to non-availability of relief vehicles. The new proposals will ensure adequate provision of vehicles so as to enable them in turn to be taken off duty for service and overhaul.

c. Refuse Disposal

The Council have, during the year, acquired additional tipping sites at Bramham and Spofforth and the existing tips at Spofforth, Bardsey and East Keswick have been closed. At the Collingham tip, large scale reforming has been carried out with a Bulldozer

and it is now in excellent condition. At the year end, seven tips were in use and two sites held in reserve. The mechanical loading shovel has been operating for three months and the use of this machine has enabled the condition of the tips to be considerably improved although the work of bringing the tips into first class condition is, of necessity, a slow process and the full advantage of the shovel will not probably be seen for some time. The purchase of this machine has, however, resulted in economies in the purchase of sealing material for the tips.

d. Financial and General Statement

The total cost of the service for the year, including provision of dustbins and cesspit emptying is £10,911 of which sum £6,597 was the cost of labour, £2,652 the cost of vehicles and £1,662 the cost of refuse disposal.

*Mileage of motor vehicles	32,221
*Petrol used (in gallons)	4,313
Premises visited	215,146
Bins emptied	261,368
Middens cleansed	3,133
Pail closets emptied	10,645
Loads removed	2,211
Cesspool and septic tank emptied ...	1,054
Loads from cesspools	983

*These figures include collection of salvage.

e. Salvage

The collection and segregation of waste materials, particularly paper and rags, has continued. Financial details in respect of this service are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sales of salvage	1,322	17	10
Expenditure including salvage bonus ...	1,231	6	5
Balance to rate fund	91	9	5

This year will long be remembered among salvage officers as a time when the unrealistic high levels of price for waste paper collapsed and when the paper mill were faced with the necessity of restricting deliveries of paper to the mills. Private collection agencies unable to dispose of paper, ceased their activities and threw back on to the Council's service, an increased tonnage of paper. Unfortunately, there was no market for this increased amount of paper and in addition, there was increasing discrimination from the mills as to the quality and kinds of paper which they would purchase. The Salvage account, illustrates the effect of the reduction in price of the paper and the reduced quantity which the Council were allowed to sell.

In view of the unsatisfactory position which has arisen, a Waste Paper Committee was set up to study the question, and this Committee was representative of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Waste Paper Merchants, Waste Paper Mills and the Local Authority Associations and professional organisations. As a result of the work of this Committee, a more stable period appears to be approaching when a fair price will be paid for paper and there will be a reasonable outlet. The unrealistic prices, however, which existed last year, are unlikely ever again to appear.

f. Dustbin Provision Scheme

The scheme has worked well and is greatly appreciated by the ratepayers.

381 bins were issued during the year and 2 were sold. The nett rate charge was approximately one penny-farthing.

VII. ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

This work, an important duty, is not spectacular but demands a considerable amount of time and the exercise of tact and discretion in dealing with owners and occupiers. It has been possible to secure abatement during the year of 1,052 nuisances. Details of which are given in the appendix. Details of Statutory Notices are as follows:—

							Statutory Notices			
Statute							Outstanding 31-12-51	Issued 1952	Abated 1952	Outstanding 31-12-52
Public Health Act, 1936										
Sect. 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6	0
„ 44	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	0	3
„ 47	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	11	5	17
„ 53	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
„ 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	6	3
„ 138	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	9	13	9
Housing Act, 1936										
Sect. 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	—	6
Town and Country Planning Act, 1947										
Sect. 23 and 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
							37	33	31	39

These figures do not include 6 notices, the time limit of which had expired during the year or which has been incorrectly served and which were subsequently reserved.

VII. SUPERVISION OF WORKPLACES

a. Factories Act, 1937

The following is a summary of the work achieved under this heading:—

Type of Factory	Registered	Inspections	Defects Found	Remedied
Factories with power ...	94	75	1	1
Factories without power ...	83	104	3	3
Other Premises	69	52	1	1
	246	231	5	5

b. Shops Act, 1934

Inspections of 32 shops and offices have been made during the year and 3 contraventions were found and abated.

IX. SUPERVISION OF FOOD—GENERAL

Steady though not spectacular progress has been made under this heading and the survey of food premises in the district continues. No contraventions of the “ Clean Food ” Byelaws have been observed during the inspections carried out during the year. It should be observed that although byelaws represent a considerable step forward in powers of control, they are defective in certain respects. One of the main problems at the moment is the mobile food shop and delivery van and in particular, I am not satisfied regarding the cleanliness and standards of hygiene adopted in the delivery of meat to the retailers in the district. The methods of distribution employed are not all satisfactory and leave much to be desired. A problem of which a number of complaints have been received relates to the methods of distribution of bread. Generally, however, the methods of distribution by reputable firms are satisfactory.

b. Food Inspection

The following food was found to be unfit for consumption:—

Commodity	Reason for Condemnation	Weight
Beef	Bone Taint	47 lb.
Pork	Decomposition	23½ ,,
Cheese	Mites	5½ ,,
Confectionary ...	Sour	1½ tins
Tinned foods ...	Blown	233 ,,
		309 lbs.

c. Milk

7 samples of milk have been taken for bacteriological analysis, of which 4 were unsatisfactory. 8 samples were taken for biological examination (for the presence of tuberculosis) and all were free from infection. 3 samples were taken in order to ascertain the presence of B.Abortus and of these, 2 were positive.

There are now 11 retailers of milk registered with the Council, this does not include Producer-Retailers as they are not required to register with this Authority.

In order to avoid duplication of sampling, copies of the results of samples submitted by the County Sampling Officers in relation to pasteurised milk are sent to the Council for information.

14 supplementary and dealers licences were issued by the Council in relation to graded milks.

d. Ice Cream

29 premises are registered with the Council for the sale of ice cream. The one registered manufacturer of ice cream discontinued operations during the year and now all ice cream is purchased from outside the district and in the main from major manufacturers.

27 samples of ice cream were procured for submission to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological grading of which 19 samples were placed under provisional grade 1 (70.4%), 5 samples in provisional grade 2 (18.3%), 3 samples in provisional grade 3 (11.3%), and no samples in provisional grade 4 (nil). The Ministry of Health suggest that 50% of the samples shall fall into grade 1, 80% in grades 1 and 2, and 20% in grade 3, and no samples shall fall into grade 4. Grade 1 and 2 are regarded as satisfactory.

Generally, there has been a continued improvement in the quality of ice cream sold and in the methods of handling and storage by retailers. The condition imposed by the Council that ice cream shall only be sold in its pre-packed form, is having a marked effect on its hygienic condition to the public. The problem which confronted us in the previous year of difficulty with the itinerent vendor is not now as acute as formerly but is still not entirely eliminated.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Camping and Moveable Dwellings

The position reported in my last report continues. There are now 312 moveable dwellings on 12 licensed sites in your area and the tendancy towards increase has somewhat diminished during the year.

Your Committee have agreed as a policy for the future as an alternative to large grouped sites, the partial dispersal of bona fide caravans and are prepared to approve, subject to planning

clearance, the siting of caravans for week-end and holiday use only in suitable situations on individual farms where the necessary water supply and sanitary facilities are available.

A number of applicants have taken advantage of this new policy and the results appear to be satisfactory.

As a result of planning control, 8 enforcement notices have been complied with, and caravans removed from unsuitable sites or where they were being used for permanent occupation. Your Council have re-affirmed their decision not to approve the use of caravans for permanent occupation other than in exceptional circumstances and the demand for this use appears either to not be as acute as formerly or the applicants are aware of the Council's policy in the matter. The decision of your Council not to approve the erection of derelict 'bus and other vehicular bodies even for holiday or week-end use, has materially improved conditions in the district.

b. Public Conveniences

- (i) **Wetherby.** These conveniences have continued to give every satisfaction and the income from them indicates the extensive use to which they are put.
- (ii) **Boston Spa.** These conveniences were completed within the contract price and the facilities provided together with the attractive design of the conveniences have received favourable comment.
- (iii) **King George Playing Fields, Wetherby.** The provision of public conveniences and changing rooms for sport and swimming at the above popular riverside open space are under construction.
- (iv) **Financial.** The income from public conveniences during the year amounted to £263 19s. 8d., and the expenditure was £529 3s. 6d.

c. Petroleum Act, 1928

An inspection of 50 petrol filling stations and private petrol tanks is made at regular intervals in order to ensure that licensing conditions are observed.

d. Civil Defence

Further preliminary work has been done under this heading during the year in respect of Rescue, Pioneer, Water Supply, Sewerage and Mortuary services which are the responsibility of my department. Unfortunately, the development of the services is dependent on the availability of volunteers and although my staff and myself have contacted personally many members of the public, the response has been negligible. The Water Committee and the Public Health Committee have considered my report on

emergency water and sewerage services and have given me authority to take such preliminary action as appears necessary at the present time. The most important part of this duty being the ear-marking of emergency sources of water supply and the training of key personnel in the emergency treatment of water.

d. Schools

Work in this connection has not proceeded as rapidly as I would have liked, but there are now only two schools in the district provided with earth closets and it is hoped that during the ensuing year both of these schools will have been provided with water carriage sanitation.

f. Dangerous Buildings

Three dangerous buildings were dealt with during the year.

g. Land Charges

310 Land Charge requisitions were referred to me for information.

h. Rodent Control

The Council's policy of assisting occupiers of premises who are infested with rats and mice has continued, and the public are very good at giving information regarding infestation. The methods in use are those prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and generally, occupiers have been willing to carry out rat proofing of premises subsequent to infestation. The following statistical details do not give a true measure of the work under this heading as a considerable amount of survey work is necessary before premises can be treated and in addition the whole of the Council's sewers have been treated during the year. I think it desirable to mention that the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) 1950 is in operation in the district. These regulations make it obligatory for a farmer or threshing contractor to erect a fence 30in. high around ricks when threshing, to secure the adequate destruction of rats on such occasions.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	1952
Total inspections of properties	390
Premises infested by rats (major)	11
Premises infested by rats (minor)	44
Premises seriously infested by mice	4
Number of premises treated	59
Notices served requiring treatment	—

i. **Contracts**

The preparation of contracts (including specifications, quantities and plans) has taken up a considerable amount of time and contracts included the carrying out of work in default of owners under Statutory notices, the Boston Spa Public Conveniences, the Wetherby Car Park, the erection of a Depot and garages at Wetherby, and various water main extensions.

Contracts brought forward from 1951	...	9	...	£9,187
Contracts under tender during 1952	...	11	...	£7,950

APPENDIX A

Statement required by Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers
(Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

HOUSING NUISANCES					Outstanding 31-12-51	Found 1952	Abated 1952	Outstanding 31-12-52
Dirty and/or verminous	...	...	...	...	—	3	3	—
Dis-repair	...	...	...	...	85	239	232	92
Drainage:								
Defective	...	...	...	...	10	104	108	6
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	—	36	32	4
Blocked	...	...	...	...	—	66	66	—
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	2	64	60	6
Light and ventilation (inadequate)	...	...	...	...	7	6	4	9
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	—
Paving (inadequate/Def.)	...	...	...	...	3	34	31	6
Refuse Storage:								
Pail Closet Renewal	...	...	...	...	1	10	9	2
Middens abolished	...	...	...	...	25	70	64	31
Sanitary Conveniences:								
Defective	...	...	...	...	3	45	46	2
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	3	12	10	5
Conversions to W.C.	...	...	...	...	20	113	115	18
Conversions to P.C.	...	...	...	...	—	3	3	—
Serious Dampness	...	...	...	...	11	25	26	10
Sewerage Disposal:								
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	3	19	16	6
Direct to streams	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	—
Water supply (Unsatisfactory)	...	...	...	...	30	60	57	33
Miscellaneous:								
General	...	...	...	...	—	9	8	1
Rodent Infestation	...	...	...	...	1	34	29	36
Food Storage (Unsatisfactory)	...	...	...	...	—	14	14	—
					204	970	937	237

GENERAL NUISANCES

(Total of premises or cases dealt with)

					Outstanding	Found	Abated	Outstanding
Offensive accumulation	...	...			—	3	3	—
Animal Keeping	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	—
Dangerous Buildings	...	...	...		—	3	3	—
Food premises (defects)	...	...			3	24	23	4
Factories	...	...	...	...	2	4	3	3
Rodent infestation	...	...	...		—	32	32	—
River and Stream Pollution	...				1	4	5	—
Sewerage:								
Blocked Sewers	...	...	...		—	27	27	—
Defective Sewers	...	...	...		—	2	2	—
Shops (defects)	...	...	...	...	—	4	4	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2	11	11	1
					<hr/>			
Total General Nuisances	...	...			8	115	115	8
					<hr/>			
Total all Nuisances	...	...	...		212	1085	1052	245
					<hr/>			

GENERAL PROVISION OF SERVICES

Piped Water Supply	...	56	Baths	...	...	...	172
W.C.'s (New)	...	125	Hot Water	...	...	...	181
Re-drainage	...	47	Sewer Connections	...			84
Septic Tanks	...	14	Sinks	...	...	...	35

NOTICES ISSUED

					Informal		Statutory
Outstanding, 1951	...	...	...	...	78	...	37
Issued, 1952	...	...	...	...	432	...	33
Complied with, 1952	...	...	...		365	...	31
Outstanding, 31-12-52	...	...	...		145	...	39
Legal Proceedings	...	...	...	...	—	...	2

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Building Byelaws (New Buildings)	515
Building Licencing	598
Bakehouses	123
Slaughterhouses	12
Cowsheds and Dairies	21
Conversion of Earth Closets	524
Camping	257
Factories Act	175
Food Premises	294
Nuisances—General	312
Housing Nuisances	854
Housing (Inc. Rural Housing Survey)	341
Housing Programme (New Houses) (See also Building Byelaws)	454
Ice Cream	134
Meat and Food Inspections (unfit)	45
Public Cleansing	534
Salvage	184
Rodent Control	112
Sewerage	245
,, (Proposed schemes)	104
Schools	59
Shops (Sanitation)	32
Town Planning	757
Waterworks	932
,, proposed schemes	334
Miscellaneous	144

